

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A method for producing a magnetic recording medium having a nonmagnetic substrate coated with a magnetic coating material containing a ferromagnetic powder and a binder, ~~comprising~~wherein:  
~~preparing the magnetic coating material contains a liquid A constituted by the a~~  
ferromagnetic powder and a solvent, ~~and;~~  
~~preparing a solution B of the a binder; and~~  
~~mixing the liquid A and the solution B are mixed together by applying an ultrasonic wave~~  
thereto, and ~~are thereafter subjected~~ subjecting the mixture to dispersion processing to obtain  
a magnetic coating material; and  
coating a nonmagnetic substrate with the magnetic coating material.
2. (original): The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ultrasonic wave is applied within one second after the liquid A and the solution B are mixed together.
3. (original): The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the liquid A is subjected to dispersion processing by applying the ultrasonic wave thereto before the liquid A and the solution B are mixed together.

4. (original): The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ferromagnetic powder is a needle particle with a major axis length of 10 to 100 nm.

5. (original): The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ferromagnetic powder is a plate particle with a plate diameter of 10 to 50 nm.

6. (currently amended): A method for producing a magnetic recording medium having a nonmagnetic substrate coated with a magnetic coating material containing a ferromagnetic powder and a binder, ~~wherein~~comprising:

~~preparing the magnetic coating material contains a liquid A constituted by the a~~  
ferromagnetic powder and a solvent, ~~and~~;

~~preparing a solution B of the a binder; and~~

~~subjecting the liquid A is subjected to dispersion processing by applying an ultrasonic~~  
wave thereto, and thereafter mixing the liquid A and the solution B ~~are mixed together~~ to obtain  
a magnetic coating material; and

coating a non-magnetic substrate with the magnetic coating material.

7. (original): The method as defined in claim 6, wherein the ferromagnetic powder is a needle particle with a major axis length of 10 to 100 nm.

8. (original): The method as defined in claim 6, wherein the ferromagnetic powder is a plate particle with a plate diameter of 10 to 50 nm.